

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

C O N F I D E N T I A L

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VF-94 (b) Based on or at USS LEXINGTON (c) Report No. VF-94-14
 (d) Take off: Date 25 July 1945 Time (LZT) 1200 (-9) (Zone); Lat. 32°-05'N Long. 136°-15'E
 (e) Mission Sweep over airfield at Okazak, Honshu (f) Time of Return 1600 (-9) (Zone)

II. OWN AIRCRAFT OFFICIALLY COVERED BY THIS REPORT.

TYPE (a)	SQUADRON (b)	NUMBER			BOMBS AND TORPEDOES CARRIED (PER PLANE) (f)	FUZE, SETTING (g)
		TAKING OFF (c)	ENGAGING ENEMY A/C (d)	ATTACKING TARGET (e)		
F6F-5	VF-94	5	0	5	1 - 500# G.P. 6 - 5" HVAR	Inst.Nose/.01 Tail Inst.Nose/.015 Base
F4U-4	VBF-94	2	0	2	1 - 500# G.P. 4 - 5" HVAR	Inst.Nose/.01 Tail Inst.Nose/.015 Base

III. OTHER U. S. OR ALLIED AIRCRAFT EMPLOYED IN THIS OPERATION.

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
F6F-5	VF-6	6	USS HANCOCK				
F6F-5	VF-1	6	USS BENNINGTON				
F4U-4	VBF-1	2	USS BENNINGTON				

IV. ENEMY AIRCRAFT OBSERVED OR ENGAGED (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only).

(a) TYPE	(b) NO. OBSERVED	(c) NO. ENGAGING OWN A/C	(d) TIME ENCOUNTERED	(e) LOCATION OF ENCOUNTER	(f) BOMBS, TORPEDOES CARRIED; GUNS OBSERVED	(g) CAMOUFLAGE AND MARKING
	N		(ZONE)			
	O	N	(ZONE)			
		E	(ZONE)			

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) _____
 Did Any Part of
 (i) Encounter(s) Occur in Clouds? _____ If so, Describe Clouds _____
(YES OR NO) (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
 Time of Day and Brilliance _____
 (j) of Sun or Moon _____ (k) Visibility _____
(NIGHT, BRIGHT MOON; DAY, OVERCAST; ETC.) (MILES)

V. ENEMY AIRCRAFT DESTROYED OR DAMAGED IN AIR (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only).

(a) TYPE ENEMY A/C	(b) DESTROYED OR DAMAGED BY:			(c) WHERE HIT, ANGLE	(d) DAMAGE CLAIMED
	TYPE A/C	SQUADRON	PILOT OR GUNNER		
	N				
	O	N			
		E			

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(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

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XI. ATTACK ON ENEMY SHIPS OR GROUND OBJECTIVES (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only).

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) Kowa (SS) Honshu ^{34°-50'N} _{136°-55'E} (b) Time Over Target(s) 1415 (-9) (Zone)
- (c) Clouds Over Target 2500' - Stratus Cumulus - 8/10
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target Obscured by clouds (e) Visibility 20
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type 7 Glide Bomb Sight Used Mk 8
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run 1 Spacing - Altitude of Bomb Release 5000'
(NUMBER) (FEET) (FEET)
- (g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed - Probably Destroyed - Damaged -

(h) AIMING POINT	(i) DIMENSIONS OR TONNAGE	(j) NO. A/C ATTACKING (k) SQUADRON	(l) BOMBS AND AMMUNITION EXPENDED, EACH AIMING POINT	(m) NO HITS On Aiming Point	(n) DAMAGE (None, slight, serious, destroyed or sunk)
1 Hangars & Adjacent Buildings	3000' x 3000'	5 - VF-94 2 - VBF-94	5-500#G.P.; 30-5" HVAR 2-500#G.P.; 4-5" HVAR	2 Bombs	Destroyed Hangar shop
2 Small boat at 34°-45'N; 136°-47'E	100 GT	2 VBF-94	4 - 5" HVAR	1	Slight damage
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					

(o) RESULTS: (For all hits claimed on ship targets and for land targets of special interest, draw diagram, top or side view or both, as appropriate, showing type and location of hits. For all targets give location and effect of hits, and identify by numbers above. Use additional sheets if necessary).

(p) Were Photographs Taken? No Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached By Staple.

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XII. TACTICAL AND OPERATIONAL DATA. (Narrative and comment. Describe action fully and comment freely, following applicable items in check list at left. Use additional sheets if necessary.)

ENGAGEMENT WITH ENEMY

OWN AIRCRAFT

Disposition
Altitudes
Speeds
Approach Tactics
Use of Cover, Deception
Angles of Attack and
Their Effectiveness
Distance of Opening Fire
Defense Tactics and
Their Effectiveness

ENEMY AIRCRAFT

Method of Locating, Distance
Disposition
Altitudes
Speeds
Approach Tactics
Use of Cover, Deception
Angles of Attack
Distance of Opening Fire
Defensive Tactics

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Own Weaknesses
Enemy Weaknesses
Offensive Tactics, Own
" " , Enemy
Defensive Tactics, Own
" " , Enemy
Flexible Gunnery, Own
Escort Tactics
Fighter Direction
Use of Radar
Night Fighting
Recognition, Aircraft

ATTACK

OWN TACTICS

Method of Locating Target
Approach to Target
Altitudes, Speeds
Approach
Dive
Pull-Out
Dive Angle
Strafing
Retirement
Defensive Tactics
Use of Jamming

DEFENSE, ENEMY

Evasive Tactics, Ships
Concealment
Searchlights
Night Fighter Tactics
Use of Jamming

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Bombing Tactics
Torpedo Tactics
Effectiveness of
Bombs, Torpedoes
Selection of Targets
Fuzing
Strafing Tactics
Defensive Tactics
Use of Radar
Reconnaissance
Photography
Briefing

OPERATIONAL


Navigation
Homing
Rendezvous
Recognition, Ships
Communications
Flight Operations
Search and Tracking
Base Operations
Maintenance

This fighter group originally had for its target Meji Airfield. However, while rendezvousing over base, orders were received to join up with fighter planes from the Hancock and the Bennington whose target was Okazak Airfield. The combined flight reached a point about 30 miles in from the coast and about 10 miles from target when it was forced to turn south due to a solid overcast at the target from 1000 feet to 10000 feet. Seeking a target of opportunity upon which to unload bombs, the strike leader (USS BENNINGTON) ordered an attack at Kowa seaplane base. In a shallow glide through the overcast from 12000 feet, a bombing attack was made; releasing at 5000 feet and leveling off at 3500 feet. Some of the attacking planes broke through the overcast and observed a hit on a hangar (Lt. Callaway, VF-94), hits on two small shops, and several hits on servicing aprons and taxiways. Rockets were also expended over the target in the same run, but hits not observed. All planes then rendezvoused and retired to base.

REPORT PREPARED BY:

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